THEY MARK ROBERTS'S ADVANCE TO THE VET RIVER.

British Troops Pushed Forward All Along the Line, and the Boers Driven from Strong Positions.

BURGHER JUNCTION PREVENTED

HAMILTON INTERFERED WITH A WELL-TIMED CAVALRY CHARGE.

Paget Stopped a Flank Movement at Warrenton, Designed to Check General Barton's Advance.

FIGHTING AT ROOIDAN

BARTON CARRIED SEVERAL RIDGES AT POINT OF BAYONET.

Rundell's Artillery Drove the Dutchmen at Thaba N'Chu-Gallantry of a Colonial Detachment.

LONDON, May 7, 4:10 a. m .- Lord Roberts is making better progress than any one has dared to hope, and is meeting with success at all points. The only news of the actual occupation of Winburg is the incidental reference to it in the dispatch from Vet river, describing General Pole-Carew's operations, but as the latest news of General Hamilton's operations, dated Sunday morning, was that he was then preparing to force the difficult passage over Little Vet river, on the Bloemfontein-Winburg road, there can be no doubt that the news of occupation is accurate.

The Boers, following their customary practice, had evacuated their positions on the Vet river during Saturday night. As Lord Roberts, advancing along the railway, and General Hamilton twenty miles to the east, threatened the two wings of the Boer forces, it would not be surprising to hear that they had also evacuated Winburg.

General Hamilton's advance will prevent the Boer forces in the direction of Thaba N'Chu joining their main army near Winburg. General Rundle, on Saturday, had arrived in pursuit of the Boers, seven miles north of Thaba N'Chu, compelling the Boers to retire in an easterly direction. A Boer account of the capture of Brandfort says: "The federal forces, although weak in numbers, offered strong resistance, but they were forced by the overwhelming force opposed to them to evacuate the town."

General Hunter's progress, although relief of Mafeking is in sight, however, Boers in that quarter are still stoutly re-

sisting the British advance. Mail from Cape Town, a special expedition to the westward left for Kimberley a few days ago and will endeavor to relieve Mafeking while General Hunter and Lord Methuen are operating on either side of the Vaal river, in conjunction with Lord Roberts's army.

rumors that Colonel Plummer has been obliged to engage the Boers at close quar- denomination to-day. In none of the serreinforced and is again advancing toward Mafeking. Another report says that Mafeking has been relieved and General Lommer, with 3,000 Boers, captured at Fourteen Streams.

Women have been placed in the government offices in the Transvaal in order to relieve the burghers for active service. Two New South Wales lancers, who es-

caped from Waterval prison, have arrived at Delagoa bay after a dangerous journey. The Volksraad will meet in Pretoria today. Probably the sitting will be memorable.

The Johannesburg shell factory has resumed work with Austrian, Italian and Greek workmen.

## Free Staters Demoralized.

LONDON, May 7 .- The Lourenzo Marques correspondent of the Times, telegraphing Sunday, says: "General Botha has been to the Free State to rouse the burghers, but has returned disheartened and disgusted. From an unimpeachable source I lean that he has openly stated to friends that the Free Staters are so completely demoralized that it is hopeless to expect anything from them."

REPORT BY ROBERTS.

Heavy Engagements All Along the

Line of the Upper Vanl. LONDON, May 6, 3 p. m .- The War Office has published the following dispatch from Lord Roberts, dated Vet river, Saturday, May 5, 7:15 p. m.: "I marched here to-day with Pole-Carew's division, and headquarters and Wavell's brigade, of the Seventh Division, is two miles in the rear. Maxwell's brigade, of the same division. to the same distance to our right.

"The enemy are in considerable strength on the opposite bank of the river. Our guns engaged theirs for some three hours without being able to force a passage of the river, but shortly before dusk the mounted infantry, under General Hutton turned the enemy's right and in a very dashing manner pushed across the river under heavy shell and musketry fire. We are now bivouacking for the night within three miles of Vet river. Our casualties, I hope, are not numerous.

"Hamilton was in action yesterday and succeeded in preventing a junction of two Boer forces by a well-executed movement by some of the Household Cavalry, the Twelfth Lancers and Kitchener's Horse, who charged a body of the enemy and inflicted serious loss, The enemy fled, leaving their dead on the field and wounded to be attended by our doctors.

"McDonald's Highland Brigade dislodged the enemy on the right flank, under cover of the naval guns, in which operation the Black Watch distinguished themselves and were very skillfully led.

"Hamilton was advancing this morning to a difficult drift over the Kleine Vet river. "Hunter reports that Barton's brigade was heavily engaged this morning, two miles north of Rooidan. The enemy's position was quite four miles long and strongly held. He states that our men marched magnificently and carried ridge after ridge in grand style. Casualties in

this force in Hamilton's and Hunter's DACT

"Captain Miller, who was taken prisoner near Thaba N'Chu, has been sent to

Rundle's camp by the enemy, with a se-

vere wound in the abdomen.

"Brabant reports that one sergeant and three men were captured on May 2, while on patrol, and that one of them, who had been brutally ill treated and left for dead by the Boers, was found the following day.

"Lieutenant Lilley, Victoria Mounted Rifles, reported missing, was found at Brandfort dangerously wounded, and has been most carefully attended by the Nethcrlands ambulance."

## Flanked the Boer Position.

VET RIVER, Sunday, May 6.-Yesterday the British, after a long march, encountered the Boers holding Vet river with six guns, two being of long range. An artillery duel ensued. Meanwhile General Hutton, after a sharp engagement, crossed the river on the left just before sunset. The Boers retreated during the night.

General Pole-Carew started at daybreak yesterday on a nineteen-mile march. He first came into contact with Boers holding the river at 1 o'clock p. m. The British soon had two batteries in action and later they added two naval nine-pounders, two 4.7 and a five-inch siege gun. The Boers fired with great accuracy, and the duel continued unabated with a terrible din, until sunset, and even later there was desultory firing. It is marvelous that nobody on the British side was injured.

General Hutton started early to find the drift on the west. When this was discovered it proved to be strongly held and protected by two guns. The British speedily engaged the Boers, who enfiladed the dismounted firing line with a Maxim, but Genral Hutton pushed forward his own pompom and a galloping Maxim and forced the Boers to leave the river bed. The encounter was terribly hot. Later the whole British force crossed the river, threatening the Boer right.

The Boers must have received about the same time news of General Hamilton's occupation of Winburg.

About sunset a detachment of twentysix Australians, who had crept unseen to- the doctrines of the church, are to be reward the river bed, found themselves near a kopje ocupied by the Boers. After firing, | future must leave the church as he has they fixed bayonets and charged, capturing the kopje. All was done on their own initiative.

had fled. General Hutton during the night got two squadrons to blow up the line near

hundred yards along the railway concealed small packets of high explosive. The Boers had destroyed three bridges over spruits between here and Brandfort, but in every case it was possible to make a detour.

much less spirit. It is reported that they are commanded by General Lucas Meyer. The bridge over the Vet river is completely destroyed.

General Hutton captured a Maxim and took twelve prisoners.

Boers Evacuate Two Towns.

WARRENTON, Sunday, May 6.-Yesterslow, is satisfactory. The idea that the day General Barton drove from 2,000 to 3,000 Boers from hilly positions at Rooidan. appears to have been premature, as the where they awaited them. They retreated dead on the field. The British casualties According to a dispatch to the Daily | were slight. General Barton is still pur-

> Windsorton and Klipdam have been evac-General Paget's brigade is attacking the

Boer position at Warrenton.

lasted from 9 in the morning until 4 p. m. From Lourenzo Marques come various | More than once the British infantry were ters, and the Boers only retired when retreat was nearly cut off.

The British losses were five killed and twenty-five wounded-mostly Welsh Fusiliers. The British took a batch of prisoners, including the Swedish ambulance, which they allowed to return. The Boers in their hurried retreat left thirteen dead. To-day General Paget made a strong demonstration against the Boer position east of the bridge, thereby preventing Boer reinforcements going to assist in checking General Barton's advance.

Forced the Line with Artillery.

THABA N'CHU, Saturday, May 5 .- Gen. Rundle, who has been pursuing the Boers with the Seventeenth Brigade, two batteries and contingents of the Yeomanry and mounted infantry, succeeded in reaching them with his artillery and forcing them to leave their position. The Yeomanry are making a long detour in pursuit. The result is not yet known here.

NO LONGER PRO-BOER.

Unpleasant Experience Caused Conversion of a Noted Rabbi.

NEW YORK, May 6 .- The Rev. Dr. Joseph H. Hertz, who was rabbi of the Witwatersrand Hebrew congregation of Johannesburg until last December, when he was expelled from the Transvaal by President Kruger, arrived here on the steamer Etruria to-day.

"I went to the Transvaal a strong pro-Boer," said he, "and spoke on many a public occasion in favor of the Transvaal government, but an insight into the Transvaal methods and an acquaintance with the leading officials within the Transvaal and Free State, as well as my personal experience while trying to remove the obnoxious religious disabilities under which the Cathpelled me to see that the Transvaal is not a republic, but rather an oligarchy, misgoverned on strictly mediaeval principles. "At the uitlander meeting at Johannesburg, on July 26, 1899, I uttered the words: 'Let President Kruger demand of the Catholic inhabitant, of the Jewish inhabitant of the state, everything he has a right to demand of his own burghers. We would give up everything. Willingly, joyfully ception of our faith, our principles, our truth and our honor, and we will not sacrifice our faith and our honor, because the heroes of Holland and sturdy men who have presided at the birth of this republic have not taught us that by sacrificing these things we would become worthy members of the Transvaal republic.' "For this sentiment I was called upon to apologize. I was ordered to withdraw it.

zen, I was expelled." DAVIS WANTS INTERVENTION.

I refused and, although an American citi-

ed to Fight Great Britain.

Hundred Thousand Americans Want-

NEW YORK, May 6.-Webster Davis. spoke at a meeting at the Academy of (CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE.)

IT IS ABSOLUTELY UNCHANGED IN THE METHODIST CHURCH.

Constitutional Commission Declares Against Amendment or Change of the Sect's Cornerstone.

REVOKE, ALTER OR CHANGE

THINGS THE GENERAL CONFERENCE HAS NO POWER TO DO.

Heretics Must Get Out of the Methodist Fellowship in the Future as They Have in the Past.

OCCUPIED PULPITS CHICAGO

BISHOPS AND VISITING MINISTERS PREACHED SERMONS YESTERDAY.

Review of the Life and Work of James M. Thoburn, Bishop of India and the Pacific Islands.

CHICAGO, May 6.-The report of the constitutional commission of the Methodist General Conference, which probably will be presented this week, will call for | land of strangers, though I may, as a matthe continued maintenance of the religion | ter of local interest to the readers of the of John Wesley. The episcopacy may be abandoned and other constitutional fea- Lucknow, Here his principal work was the tures changed, but the articles of religion, tained in their purity. The heretic of the done in the past. Methodism will not accept any departure from the theology of the fathers. The provision for the safe-Thus night fell. Early this morning it | guarding of the tenets of Wesley is found was discovered that the whole Boer force in Article II, providing for amendments. The provision is as follows:

two-thirds of all the members of the sev-The British discovered yesterday at every eral conferences present and voting, and of two-thirds of all members of the lay electoral conferences present and voting. shall suffice to authorize the next ensuing General Conference, by a two-thirds vote. to alter or amend any of the provisions of unteer was Miss Jennie Tinsley, of In-The Boers appear to be fighting with this constitution, excepting Section 1, Arti- dianapolis, a sister of the Rev. Charles W.

> The section is as follows: "The General Conference shall not revoke, alter nor change our articles of religion, nor establish any new standards or rules of doc-

The report of the commission provides that the constitution shall consist of the articles of religion, general rules and the Naini Tal, a beautiful mountain city on the sections of the General Conference law. The special advice is not included in the crganic law. This disposes of the controafter stiff fighting, leaving a number of versy over the second specification, "Let all our people be exhorted to conform to the spirit of the apostolic precept."

Discipline devoted to the General Confer- | any romantic notions of missionary life ence are very slight, and in the direction of amplification. The commission, anticipating equal lay representation, has incor-The engagement yesterday was severe and porated it in the proposed constitution. Methodist bishops and ministers occupied the pulpits of the Chicago churches of that mons were there any references to th questions before the General Conference. In the business of the week the delegates to the Ceneral Conference face a situation that may mark new courses for the future. and, whichever way the vital questions are of the great church. There are four questions of popular interest, any one of which may be brought up during this week. They

> The amusement question, the five-year limit of pastorates, the consolidating of the Christian Advocates, the consolidation of benevolent societies.

> The Methodists will have a busy week. There is the general session each morning, and in the afternoon are six and seven committee meetings. The evenings will be occupied with receptions and socials.

may come about May 15, and in the meantime it will become more and more evident who are the leading candidates. Eight men have been mentioned prominently for bishops, but until the committee on episcopacy be little to indicate how many new bishops there are to be.

THOBURN'S GREAT WORK.

## Life and Labors of the Bishop of India and of Malaysia. Special to the Indianapolis Journal. CHICAGO, May 6 .- One of the compensa-

tions of the afternoon of life is the opporvest, or the sowing amidst discouragements and the growing with the promise of greater results, whether one be a part of the events or only an interested onlooker. It seems but yesterday, though it is a few weeks over forty-one years, since the olics and the Jews suffer, gradually com- Methodists of Indianapolis met in old Roberts Chapel to bid farewell to a young man the Rev. Joseph R. Downey, and his wife, who were to leave the next day as mission aries to India, neither of them ever to return. Two and a half years before the Rev. William Butter, of the New England Conference, had gone to India to explore the country with reference to the possibility of establishing a mission under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal would we sacrifice everything with the ex- Church. Within a year he reported an open door, with promise, and sent a request for six young married men to be sent through the church papers. This farewell home at the time was Indianapolis. He had married an educated young woman. Miss Minnie Rockwell, of Illinois. Being a brother of Mrs. John A. Brouse and of heroism which moved him to the consecra- influence will flow on through the ages

unmarried, the Rev. James M. Thoburn. not of that little company only, but of almost an innumerable host to follow. It is

the presence of this young man at this General Conference, now Bishop Thoburn, "bishop of India and Malaysia," only sixtyfour years old, measured by the calendar, but much odler, measured by achievements and experiences. He is in feeble health and it is doubtful whether he will be able to return to his field of labor and of tri- J. PARKER SPEAKS FOR THE MIDumph. To me, at least, he is the most picturesque character present. How much this estimate may be due to the quasi touch I have so long had with him, through the Indiana contributions to his missionary band, I do not undertake to say, but, independent of all this, he has a record that no other man has or ever can

have, because the conditions which devel-

A NATIVE OF OHIO. He was born in Ohio in 1836. His educational advantages were only such as in those days came to young men of will. His father died when he was quite young and he literally "worked his way" through Allegheny College by teaching school and other self-reliant methods, and he was graduated in 1857. He at once entered the post-graduate Methodist school of that period and was sent to a large circuit at a salary of \$100 per year and board, the boarding to be with the people of his flock, wherever night should overtake him, so that wherever he and his saddlebags were toegther he was at home. He read the call for volunteers to India and his heart was drawn in that direction, so that when Dr. Durbin and Bishop Janes visited the Ohio Conference in the fall of 1858 they found a receptive youth, twenty-two years of age, ready to their hand, and he at once began to prepare for his lifework. The band could not be got together before April, 1859, when he and the four others, all with wives but him, sailed for Calcutta. It was September before they reached their destination. They were met there by Dr. Butter, the explorer, and were at once assigned to their respective "stations."

It is no part of the purpose of this paper to detail the experiences of these missionaries separated from each other in that Journal say that Mr. Downey was sent to opening of a school. He lived only two or three years, but his school lives on and, as is becoming, hardly as an accident but as a logical sequence, the daughter of our townsman. Capt. Charles W. Brouse, nephew of the founder of the school, is today one of the teachers in that Lucknow college, after forty years. Such are the coincidences if not the sequences of life. Later Mr. Thoburn married the widow o "The concurrent recommendation of Mr. Downey, thus more conspicuously allying him with Indianapolis Methodism. But that mission field was to have another bond of union to us. The work grew and the demand for women became so urgent that the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was organized and among the first to vol-Tinsley, the present pastor of Fletcherplace M. E. Church, Indianapolis, After the death of the wife of Missionary Waugh she was married to him. Mr. Waugh's health failing, he and his wife are now residing at Delaware, O., with two daugh-

ters training for the missionary field. Mr. Thoburn's first appointment was to lower slopes of the Himalayas, 7,000 feet above sea level. Here, in sight of eternal snow, he began his life work. The Sepoy rebellion, from which Mr. Butter had suffered, was over and his person was safe, though he was received coldly as a mis-The changes in the section of the Book of sionary, so that if he had ever entertained they soon vanished. He found employment, however, in preaching in English to a few British soldiers, stationed at Naini Tal, while he was learning the Hindustani lan-

SOON MADE HIS WAY. He soon mingled informally with natives, singly and in groups, so that they began to respect and love him personally and thus, little by little, the door was opened to his gospel mission. Little by little the door opened wider and wider. His colleagues, increased in number, were also settled, will leave effects on the machinery successful in their several stations. He soon developed such admirable executive abilities that he was given the oversight of the entire India mission in the office of presiding elder when only thirty-three years old. From that day to this he has utilize the work of William Taylor, who much interest in the Christian religion, but organizing nothing. In Taylor's wake he found some work that could be utilized The political aspect of the conference will and he gathered the uninstructed converts begin to shape itself this week. Elections | into a Christian fold. He was not slow to discover that women in India needed women as teachers and he proposed to his sister in America that she devote herself to the cause of missions in India. His presentation of the case was successful. But how has held a number of sessions there will to support her was an unsolved problem, but with the demand came the supply. The call of Miss Thoburn to the women of India was the occasion of the formation of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and Miss Thoburn went out as their first representative and only the allweighing Master knows which crown shall have the more jewels when the jewels are gathered, if indeed there can be any difference where each has done the best in his or her tunity to compare seed time with the har- sphere. Evidently he built wiser than he knew when he invited that heroine sister to join him in the Christianizing of India, and when, as a concomitant of this, the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society sprang into life and activity.

At the General Conference of 1888, Dr. Thoburn was elected to the office of "Bishop of India and Malaysia," which practically means bishop of all eastern Asia and the islands of the Pacific ocean thereto adjoining. So broad was his field that when, by the fortunes of war, the Philippine group was open to the gospel he at once entered and began to preach and to organize the Methodist Episcopal Church in Luzon. The church in India now numbers 3,500 workers, all self-supporting. There are within his diocese about 8,500 Epworth Leaguers, speaking more than thirty different dialects, and the two India conas soon as possible. Dr. Durbin, the mis- ferences and the Bombay Conference consionary secretary, called for volunteers stitute only a part of his diocese and they are no longer mission conferences, to be occasion was the outcome of that call. Mr. supported by the home church, but they Downey was born in New Albany, but his are sending missionaries to the regions beyond and delegates, ministerial and lav. to this General Conference. It is not probable that the bishop will

ever return to India. His active work in ever widening and deepening. Others will Meanwhile three other young men with take his place in India and the regions (CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE.)

ROAD POPULIST PARTY.

He Says the Sioux City Convention Is a Very Small Tail to Bryan's Democratic Airship.

oped him can hardly ever be duplicated. REAL THING AT CINCINNATI

> TRUE POPULISTS WILL MEET THERE AND NOMINATE A TICKET.

> Gen. Weaver Denies Interview Concerning Himself and a Portfolio in Mr. Bryan's Cabinet.

> DEMOCRATS AT KANSAS CITY

COMMITTEE LOOKS OVER GROUND AND DISCUSSES PROSPECTS.

Illinois Republican Convention Will Meet at Peoria Tuesday-Gossip Concerning the Candidates.

CINCINNATI, May 6.-The advance workers for the national convention of the middle-of-the-road Populists, which will meet here Wednesday afternoon, arrived to-day. They are all opposed to fusion and almost everything else that has any connection with other political Joe A. Parker, secretary of the national committee of the middle-of-the-roaders, has had his headquarters here at the Dennison for some weeks, while arranging for the convention. He was joined by many

others to-day. They all claim that they represent a large majority of the People's party, that in the contests at State conventions the Sioux Falls fusionists carried less than 300 of the 975 delegates, and that the convention at Sioux Falls, this week, will be one of excursionists, with a minority of delegates, as over two-thirds of the delegates were instructed by their States for the Cincinnati convention, which will keep in the middle of the road, and not be sidetracked in the interest of anybody or any party. They call attention to the fact that their call is in accord with the Omaha law of 1892, excluding all officeholders, and charge that the Sioux Falls convention is in charge of Senators Butler, Allen and Pettigrew, and other officeholders, the same as the

Republican and Democratic conventions. "It is well recognized by all people," said Secretary Parker, "whether they be Populists or not, that the Cincinnati convention represents the real Populistic movement It is equally well known that the Sloux Falls convention is simply an adjunct to the Democratic party. This accounts for the unanimity with which Populists in every section have repudiated the call fo the latter convention and indorsed the Cincinnati movement. We are confident of an attendance fully as great as the capacity of our hall, and it is claimed that Robinson's Opera House will seat 2,800 people."

WILL EMBARRASS BRYAN. Mr. Parker said: "The Sioux Falls convention cannot deliver a vote to Bryan that would not go to him as the regular Democratic nominee. Any action that the Sioux Falls convention may take will only embarrass Bryan and give his enemies in the Democratic party an opportunity to hammer him. He would be much stronger as a thorough Democratic candidate than as a fusionist, and if the leaders of the Sioux Falls convention were really fo Bryan they would go about the matter in a way to accomplish his election. They would openly join the Democratic party been practically at the head of that mis- and help to elect its nominee. But they sion. It became a part of his work, and it | are not so much for Bryan as they are for themselves, and they are working th fusion racket more with an eye to getting had gone through parts of India creating | Democratic support for the State and other offices they hold, and expect to hold, than for any love for Bryan. This idea was boldly argued in the committee on resolutions at Raleigh, N. C. Mr. Bryan is in more danger to-day from these friends than he is from the middle-of-the-roaders.' Asked about the charge of Senator Petti grew that Senator Hanna was helping the convention, Mr. Parker said:

"It is false. The fusion leaders see that the People's party has repudiated them This has driven them to the extremity of trying to impugn the motives of those behind our movement. We expect nothing else but a campaign of slander, but we propose to meet it as it deserves. In truth, this whole work has been accomplished, and all expenses of the convention paid with \$700, the amount contributed by the convention league of Cincinnati. The fusionists buncoed Sioux Falls out of \$5,500, which will make their delegates cost over \$20 a head. I should judge; but we were unable to get anything more than \$700. Of course, all of Ohio State University, stating that he and us who have done the preliminary work a party of eight persons, including the have worked without remuneration, and we have had to dispense with music and all extras and limit ourselves to bare necessities, but we are here for business and not to cut a swell, and propose to do the best we can. But it does make us a little angry to have the fusionists parading such statement before the public, and leading people to believe that we have a barrel of money. I wrote Senator Pettigrew the facts, over a week ago, and asked that he set us right, but up to this time I have heard nothing from him. It does seem strange that any man holding an office, secured at the sacrifice of his party's purity and inde pendence, should throw out slurs at other people who do not see things as he does. Senator Pettigrew is up for re-election in South Dakota, this year, and I do not think it will help his chances much to throw mud at true Populists."

D. Clem Deaver, chairman, and Jo A Parker, secretary of the middle-of-the-road national committee were in conference tonight with James H. Farris, editor of the Joliet (Ill.) News: J. E. Bodenhamer, editor James E. Downey, of Indianapolis, there | that field is apparently over at the early of the Dalton (Ga.) Herald, and others, who was a local interest in him besides in the lage of sixty-four, but the stream of his are here for the annual meeting to-morrow of the National Reform Press Association. Deaver is editor of the True Populist, at Omaha, Neb., and Parker is at Dallas, W wives had volunteered and one young man thereabout, while other young graduates P. Marsh, of the Kentucky committee, and from the Christian schools of America, Joe Wheeler, of the Ohio committee, were oner and carried him into the woods. He former assistant secretary of the interior, who was ultimately to become the leader, and India as well, will rise to as heroic and in the conference. They are all opposed to was found dead, hanging to a limb not far successful work. The days of heroism are fusion, and for a midroad course only. The from the public road, leading from this Oregon delegates arrived to-night. The place to Hartford

large Texas delegation spent Sunday in St. Louis, and will be here in the morning.

Bryan and Towne the Ticket.

CHICAGO, May 6.-The Chronicle tomorrow will say: "Bryan and Towne-that was the way the probable Democratic, MALLORY LINE PIER AT NEW YORK Populistic and Silver Republican national ticket was framed up as the result of a conference yesterday afternoon between leaders of the three parties at the Sherman House. The presidential nomination was not discussed, as being a fonegone conclusion, but when the conferees had dived into the puzzle of the vice presidential situation, Charles A. Towne, of Duluth, stood on a pinnacle that dwarfed other possibilities.

"The Populist representatives at the conference were Senator Marion Butler, of South Carolina, chairman of his party's national committee; Gen. J. B. Weaver, of Iowa, and Congressman George Shiebeley, of Virginia. The Silver Republicans were represented by Senator Pettigrew, of South Dakota.

"Mr. Towne, though chairman of the Lincoln Republican national committee, did not attend the meeting, owing to the position in which he stood regarding the matter under discussion.

"The Democratic representatives were Vice Chairman James G. Johnson, of the PREDICAMENT OF A CAPTAIN national committee, and Daniel J. Campau, of Detroit, national committeeman from Michigan. Colonel Bryan was not present."

Weaver Denies the Story.

CHICAGO, May 6.-General James A. Weaver, of Iowa, was in Chicago to-day on his way to Sioux Falls, to attend the national Populist convention. Asked about the statement attributed to him, while in Indianapolis recently, that in case of the election of Mr. Bryan he expected a Cabinet portfolio, he said he had never made such a statement-that the report was absurd, and that those who knew him best knew that he was incapable of making such a remark.

GREAT FIGHT IS ON.

Cullom and Tanner to Try Conclusions in Illinois Convention.

PEORIA, Ill., May 6.-The Republican State convention for the nomination of State officers will be held here Tuesday. Hundreds of politicians, most of them delegates, are already here. The interest in drowned. the convention is very great. Two factions are struggling for control-the Cullom faction and the Tanner-Hanecy faction. Senator Cullom is here in person. What Senator Cullom will ask of the convention, or whether he will ask anything, will depend on the strength made on or- the south side was the steamer San Marcos ganization. If his friends are in control, the convention will either name him as the party's candidate for Senator or instruct for him for the vice presidential nomination. No Republican State convention in Illinois has named a senatorial candidate since 1858, and the sentiment against the policy is so strong that any effort to

adopt it this year probably will fall. Governor Tanner is expected to arrive from Springfield to-morrow. He will try to defeat any resolution instructing for Senator Cullom for either senator or vice president. All of the candidates for Governor are now on the ground. Judge Hancey declares emphatically that he will be nominated on the first ballot. Congressman Reeves, Judge Carter and Judge Yates say the Hanecy claims are greatly exaggerated. The Tanner-Hanecy faction will control the temporary organiza. tion of the convention.

WORRYING ABOUT THE HALL.

Democrats Fear Kansas City Has Too

Big a Contract. KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 6 .- The subcommittee of the Democratic national committee will meet here to-morrow and decide whether or not Kansas City will be able to rebuild Convention Hall for the point of going down. It became a question national convention. L. W. Wagner, first assistant sergeant-at-arms, and Mr. R. Bimberg, decorator for Tammany Hall,

arrived here to-day. "A very strong impression has got out in the East," said Mr. Wagner to-night. "that the hall will not be completed in time. Everybody in the East seems uneasy and doubtful about it. Since I reached here, a few hours ago, I have heard and removed to the Hudson-street Hospital, seen enough to convince me that the work | where later they recovered. s being pushed rapidly, and that the hall will be ready by July 4. The walls will be lay alongside the other burning barges, up, the floor in and the roof on, and that's all that is necessary. If the report of the subcommittee is what I feel sure it will the police, but Patrolman Jeremiah Cronin be, it will quiet the fears of the East." Mr. Wagner said Tammany would come

to Kansas City six thousand strong. The members of the committee are expected in the morning, and they will consider numerous questions pertaining to the convention.

# GETTING READY TO SEE THINGS.

Scientists Prepare to Observe the Total Eclipse of the Sun.

ATLANTA, Ga., May 6.-The total eclipse of the sun. May 28, which will be visible in this latitude, is arousing unasual interest among astronomers. George C. Collier, of Indian Springs, Ga., has received letters from Prof. R. W. McFarland, of Oxford, for twenty-one years professor of the present professor of astronomy at the Ohio State University, will come to Indian Springs to view the solar eclipse on May

Prof. Stone, of the University of Virginia. and director of the Alexander-McCormick observatory, is at Winsboro, S. C., where he has selected a location for observing the eclipse of the sun on the 28th. He will begin work at once on a great photographic camera, with a lens five inches in diameter. The plates will be triple coated and be fourteen by seventeen inches. For visual study two telescopes will be used.

## UNKNOWN NEGRO LYNCHED.

Accused of Assault on a Thirteen-Year-Old Alabama Girl.

GENEVA, Ala., May 6.-An unknown negro, about twenty-six years old, barefooted and of ginger-color, was lynched three miles from here yesterday. He assaulted a thirteen-year-old white girl Tuesday and was captured two days later and taken before the mayor of Hartford for preliminary trial.

The officers claim that when about three miles from Geneva they were overpowered by armed men, who took charge of the pris-

DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Vessels Damaged and Barges Burned or Sunk in the East River at the Foot of Maiden Lane.

GREAT WAREHOUSES BURNED

LARGE QUANTITIES OF MERCHAN-DISE WERE STORED THEREIN.

One Life Was Lost and Many Persons Had Very Narrow Escapes from

Death by Fire or Drowning.

HAD TO SACRIFICE HIS BABY IN OR-

DER TO SAVE HIS WIFE.

Policeman Badly Burned in Making a Rescue-Exact Loss and Insurance Not Available to the Public.

NEW YORK, May 6 .- A fire that started at the river end of the Mallory line steamship pier, at the foot of Maiden lane on the East river, early this morning completely destroyed the pier and its valuable contents. The police place the loss at \$1,000,000. Several barges which were moored near the pier also were destroyed, and many rescues of their captains and of the members of the families on board were made. Only one life was lost. The ninemonths'-old daughter of Capt. Charles Lochs, of the barge Sherwood, was

The Mallory line pier was 200 feet long and fifty feet wide. The pier shed was filled with valuable freight of a miscellanous character, but mostly cotton. On the north side of the pier were moored a number of coal and cotton barges, while on and a number of barges.

No sooner had the work of fighting the flames begun than the firemen and citizens turned their attention to saving the lives of those on the barges which were lying within the line of danger. Nearest to the pier was the barge Stephen B. Elkins. Her captain, Frank Fox, and his wife, his threeyear-old daughter and a baby were on board and sleeping. A skid was quickly run from the pier to the coal barge, the occupants of the boat were awakened and were hurried from their bunks to a place of safety before the flames had reached them.

COULD NOT SAVE BOTH. On board the barge Sherwood Charles Lochs, the captain, thirty-six years old: his wife, Lena, thirty years old, and their daughter Rosle, nine months old. The Lochs family was awakened by the flames. Their barge was already on fire at the time that they were aroused from sleep. The father took the nine-monthsold baby in his arms and with his wife jumped into the water. Capt. Timothy Boylan, formerly in command of the barge New Brunswick, whose home is at Ron-

dout. N. Y., plunged in to save the woman who had become exhausted. Her husband, who still held the baby in his arms, saw that his wife was on the to him as to which he should save, his wife or his baby. He therefore let the baby go, in the hope that she would be picked up by some one else, and went to the assistance of his wife.

He managed to hold her head above the water until Boylan reached them. three were then landed by life lines. The half-drowned captain and his wife were

On the coal barge S. H. Hand were the captain, Joseph Plumb, his wife and two children. All were rescued by was badly burned while taking one of the children ashore. All hands on board the lighter Arno got ashore safely. Michael Sheldon, of that boat, was compelled to jump into the river, from which he was

Three large vessels were lying so near the blazing pier that their safety was endangered. The steamer San Marcos and the steam Nueces were towed out into midstream, together with the bark St. James, the rigging of which was burned before she could be towed out of harm's

EXCITING SCENES.

The scene on the water was a most exciting one, for the river was filled with steamer craft engaged in towing the various vessels and barges to safety from their dangerous positions. Four cotton barges; others laden with corn meal and some loaded with coal caught fire and were destroyed. Some of them were also sunk to prevent the further spread of the flames. A number of buildings on South street were scorched, and several were emptied of their tenants, who feared that the buildings would be burned.

Henry Mallory said regarding the fire: "I have no idea how the fire started, and I can form no edaquate idea of the loss. The entire pier is destroyed, together with the offices and other buildings on the bulkhead. My brother Charles sailed for Europe on the Teutonic, ten days ago, and he will remain abroad two months. notwithstanding this catastrophe. I cannot tell what our immediate plans will be. or when we shall begin to rebuild. Our books and other documents were destroyed and I cannot say anything about the insurance at present. The only positive information that I can give at present is that fortunately, at the time of the fire, there was not the usual amount of freight on the pier, the Comal sailed at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon, and cleared up most of the overflew. I positively cannot fix the origin of the fire, give the amount of damage or approximate the amount of the

insurance.

Fertilizer Factory Burned. SYRACUSE, N. Y., May 6.-Fire destroyed the plant of the Reed Fertilizer Company at Eastwood to-night. Loss \$50,-

Relief Sent from New Zegland. OTTAWA, Ont., May 6.-Premier Seddon of New Zealand, has sent a cable to Bir